

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 07825 211228Z

15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 RSC-01 /019 W

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R 211045Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO USDOC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7772

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STATE FOR NEA/AFN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS TS

SUBJECT: TRADE COMPLAINT

REF: TUNIS 6857, 6496, USDOC 15800

1. RAFIK CHELLY, CHIEF OF PRESIDENT'S SECURITY SERVICE, ONCE AGAIN CALLED ON EMBOFF TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE REGARDING PURCHASE OF 2 BOATS FROM AMF MARINE PRODUCTS GROUP. PURSUANT USDOC 15800, CHELLY RECEIVED NEW PRO-FORMAS (ABOUT \$14,000) ON OCT 25. PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES REQUIRED CHILLY OBTAIN SIX SIGNED COPIES OF PURCHASE CONTRACT IN FRENCH; THESE CONTRACTS TRANSMITTED TO AMF BY EMBASSY ON NOV 6; TUNIS 6857 ADVISED AMF OF DESPATCH OF CONTRACTS. ON NOV 13 A FELIPE RODRIGUEZ ACKNOWLEDGED ORDER BUT ATTACHED PHOTOCOPY OF AN INVOICE REFLECTING EARLIER, LOWER PRICES (OF ABOUT \$10,000) FOR BOTH BOATS. TO DATE, CHELLY HAS NOT RECEIVED SIGNED PURCHASE CONTRACTS WHICH HE REQUIRES TO EFFECT PURCHASE THIS FISCAL YEAR (ENDING DEC 31).

2. IT IS OF CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL AS WELL AS COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE THAT THIS TRANSACTION BE COMPLETED RAPIDLY AND AMICABLY. CHELLY, AS CHIEF OF BOURGUIBA'S SECURITY SERVICE, HAS CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE. DELAYS AND DIFFICULTIES ON THIS SEEMINGLY SIMPLE TRANSACTION ARE GIVING US BUSINESS BLACK EYE AND COULD VERY WELL ADVERSELY AFFECT GENERAL WILLINGNESS OF TOP TUNISIAN

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OFFICIALS TO FACILITATE TUNISIA'S TRADE TIES WITH US.

3. USDOC PLEASE CONTACT AMF URGENTLY AND CLARIFY SITUATION.
WE ARE NOT SURE WHO YOU SHOULD CONTACT AS AMF IS MODERNIZING
ITS INTERNATIONAL DIVISION. PREVIOUS CONTACTS WERE ARIES
MANNING AND JOHN MC CARTHY AT AMF, WHITE PLAINS,
NEW YORK.

4. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.
SEELYE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
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